

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on January 29, 2004.

Claims 45 is canceled; as a result, claims 22-23 and 28-44 are now pending in this application.

• Double Patenting Rejection

Claim 45 was objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as allegedly being a substantial duplicate of claim 29.

Applicants have cancelled claim 45. Accordingly, this objection is believed moot.

• Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 22-23 and 28-44 were indicated to be allowable over prior art. Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to claim 45 has been overcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6968 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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Date March 31, 2004

By William F. Prout

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 31 day of March, 2004.

Gina M. Uphus

Name

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Signature